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Minutes of Meeting of Board of Directors

December 3, 1938

A MEETING of the Board of Directors of the Sierra Club was held in the club room, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco, California, on Saturday, December 3, 1938, from 10:00 A. M. to 12:30 P. M. and from 2:00 to 4:00 P. M. Present: Directors Adams, Clark, Dawson, Farquhar, Hildebrand, Huber, Kehrlein, LeConte, Leonard, McDuffie, Robinson, Starr, Tappaan. Absent: Directors Bernays and Colby. A motion having been passed at the May meeting, that the honorary officers be invited to attend meetings of the Board of Directors, there were present honorary vice-presidents Matthes, Price, and Wright. Honorary vice-presidents Albright, McFarland, Merriam, Sproul, and Wilbur had written that they could not attend. There were also present by invitation E. Stanley Jones and Richard G. Johnson, chairmen of the Southern California and San Francisco Bay chapters. Charles A. Stone, chairman of the Loma Prieta Chapter, and Richard M. Esgate, chairman of the Riverside Chapter, were unable to attend. Arthur H. Blake, chairman of the Committee on Mountain Records and Place Names, was also present.

President Hildebrand called the meeting to order and, due to the absence of Mr. Colby, asked Mr. Clark to act as secretary pro tem. The minutes of the meetings of the Board, held May 7 and October 8, 1938,

were approved as published in the June and October issues of the *Sierra Club Bulletin*. Mr. Colby had written that it was necessary for him to be in New Mexico on professional work, and Mr. Bernays, that he was unable to come to San Francisco at this time. A motion was passed that they be excused.

Richard M. Leonard was welcomed as a new director, having been elected at the October meeting to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Mrs. Parsons.

President Hildebrand reported briefly on general Club matters. Mr. Huber reported a satisfactory financial condition and presented a tentative budget for 1939. Mr. Clark read Mr. Colby's report on a continued membership increase, the number of members on December 1, 1938, being as follows: Southern California Chapter, 1222; San Francisco Bay Chapter, 1743; Loma Prieta Chapter, 185; Riverside Chapter, 61; general, 271; total, 3482.

E. Stanley Jones, the newly elected chairman of the Southern California Chapter, was introduced and presented his written report on southern California lodges and ski huts, headquarters, sections, financial status, membership, and officers. This report was accepted and placed on file. Mr. Tappaan supplemented Mr. Jones' report by advising that the Muir Lodge property had been satisfac-

torily disposed of by the special committee appointed for that purpose, as authorized by the Board at the May meeting.

Prior to the meeting copies of written reports submitted by Richard G. Johnson and Richard M. Esgate, chairmen of the San Francisco Bay and Riverside chapters, respectively, were mailed to the directors. A written report received from Dorothy Markwad, secretary of the Loma Prieta Chapter, was read by Mr. Clark. These reports were accepted and placed on file.

Prior to the meeting copies of a written report on the 1938 annual outing, the burro trips, and the Yosemite spring trip, submitted by Mr. Leonard, chairman of the Outing Committee, were mailed to the directors. This report was accepted and placed on file. Mr. Leonard stated that the Outing Committee is planning to conduct similar trips during the summer of 1939. The annual outing will be held in the Kings River region; the burro trips will probably start from the Soda Springs property in Tuolumne Meadows.

Mr. Farquhar reported that the Editorial Board has been working on the annual magazine number and has some interesting articles on hand with others in process of preparation. He stated that the committee has been considering the advisability of issuing the *Sierra Club Bulletin* as a quarterly instead of as a bimonthly, building up the small issues into something a little more substantial and of permanent interest, appropriate for binding with the magazine number. If such a change is decided upon, another question is whether to start the quarterly in 1939 or wait until 1940 following the completion of four magazine numbers for binding, namely, 1936-1937-1938-1939. Authority was granted the Editorial Board to change the *Sierra Club Bulletin* into a quarterly if and when the Editorial Board determines such a change to be advisable.

In this connection, Mr. Farquhar brought to the attention of the directors the publica-

tion of "The Mugelnoos" by the Ski Mountaineers and Rock Climbing sections of the Southern California Chapter, and highly commended the editors on this piece of work. "The Mugelnoos" is a biweekly news-sheet for the members of the two sections. It was the consensus that all publications of the Sierra Club, its chapters and committees, should be sent to the directors of the Club, and the sum of \$15 was appropriated to cover the cost of sending "The Mugelnoos" to the directors.

Mr. Clark, in reporting on lodges, mentioned the road on Mount Shasta built a year or so ago by the Forest Service. This road passes within one and one-half miles of the Club's property at Horse Camp, continuing on to Panther Meadow, where the Forest Service plans to install simple camping facilities. The Forest Service does not plan to extend this road to Horse Camp, but may build a trail from Panther Meadow to Horse Camp, possibly extending it on around the mountain. The road to Panther Meadow is not kept open during the winter; people wishing to ski on Mount Shasta find accommodations in Mount Shasta City, making day trips from there to the snow slopes. During the past summer Mr. Cooke served again as custodian of the Club's Shasta Alpine Lodge at Horse Camp; Mr. Duhme was again the custodian of the Parsons Lodge and the Soda Springs property at Tuolumne Meadows; and Mr. Holman, as usual, was at the LeConte Memorial Lodge in Yosemite Valley.

Mr. Clark gave also a report on finances of the Clair Tappaan Lodge. A number of improvements were made during the summer and fall to the main building and the annex; also, a ski tow has been constructed near the lodge, partly financed by an advance sale of tickets.

Mr. Robinson, chairman of the Winter Sports Committee, reported the completion of the Peter Grubb Memorial Hut, five miles north of the Clair Tappaan Lodge.

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Mr. Blake, chairman of the Committee on Mountain Records and Place Names, reported progress on two sections of "A Climber's Guide to the High Sierra," namely, "The Palisades," and "Muir Crest." He requested approval of the following names of outstanding scientists to be given to peaks to be described by Mr. F. E. Matthes in his "Outline of Geology of Sequoia National Park," now in course of preparation: Newcomb, Pickering, Hale, Michelson, Campbell, Chamberlin. Forbes. A motion was passed that these names of outstanding scientists be adopted, subject to the final determination of the committee as to their precise location.

Mr. Starr, in reporting on work of the High Sierra Trails Committee, mentioned his brief article in the October *Sierra Club Bulletin* listing trail construction and repair work completed during the summer. A good trail of high enough standard now exists along the entire route of the John Muir Trail. He advised that Regional Director F. A. Kittredge, of the National Park Service, had recently written Dr. Hildebrand, requesting that the Sierra Club make recommendations to the Park Service as to a system of trails in the California national parks, and also as to the development of skiing in the parks. The High Sierra Trails Committee will formulate a report on trails, and the Winter Sports Committee, on skiing. The directors were urged to send in suggestions for these reports, which are to be presented in January.

Mr. Kehrlein, chairman of the Committee on Glacier Study, stated that he had made a trip into the mountains with Mr. Matthes in connection with work of the committee. An article will be published in the magazine number of the *Sierra Club Bulletin*.

A written report was submitted by Alfred Weiler, chairman of the Library Committee. The committee is making a card catalog of the books and is having some of the mountaineering journals bound. Mr. Weiler asked for funds to continue with the binding in

order to bring the bound copies up to date. A motion was passed that the treasurer be authorized in connection with the Library Committee to expend necessary funds for binding.

A motion was passed that it is the sentiment of the Board that the Sierra Club support a movement to save the Redwood Mountain tract of sequoias in the High Sierra, and that Mrs. Linnie Marsh Wolfe be so advised.

As to a proposal to name the proposed Kings Canyon National Park the "John Muir National Park," it was the consensus that the Sierra Club would have no objection, but that, as John Muir was one of the founders of the Sierra Club and its first president, from 1892 to his death in 1914, the directors would not wish to push the matter.

President Hildebrand was instructed to write to Representative Henry L. Englebright and Senator Hiram W. Johnson, urging that in the coming session of Congress they again seek the enactment of a measure similar to the bills which they introduced in the last Congress, which would, if enacted, eventually do much to improve an area in the watershed of the Shasta Reservoir of the Central Valley Project which is now in serious condition from denudation of forest cover.

In 1935 Mr. Ernest Dawson, then president of the Sierra Club, represented the Club as its delegate at the Convention of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs and invited the Federation to hold its 1938 Convention as guests of the Sierra Club. This date was later advanced to 1939 and the invitation confirmed by the Board of Directors by motion passed at the May meeting, that the Sierra Club invite the Federation to hold its 1939 Convention at the Clair Tappaan Lodge. Director Clark was the Sierra Club delegate to the Convention held over Labor Day at the Mazama Lodge on the slopes of Mount Hood, and in behalf of the Sierra Club invited the Federation to hold its 1939 Convention at the Clair Tappaan Lodge over next Labor Day, and this invitation was ac-

cepted. A motion was now passed by the Board of Directors that the Clair Tappaan Lodge Committee be charged with the duties of handling the 1939 Convention of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs.

The following were appointed a committee to draw up some proposed amendments to the by-laws governing membership: Richard M. Leonard (chairman), Bestor Robinson, Francis D. Tappaan.

Marion Randall Parsons was elected an honorary vice-president in recognition of her many years of service to the Sierra Club.

Upon motion, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved that the memorial which follows be made a part of the minutes of this meeting and that a copy be sent to the members of Gabriel Sovulewski's family:

With a deep sense of loss we note the death on November 29 of Gabriel Sovulewski, an honorary life member of the Sierra Club and veteran of the National Park Service. Born in Poland in 1866, Sovulewski at the age of sixteen found refuge from political persecution in the United States. He enlisted in the army in 1888 and rapidly advanced from private to quartermaster sergeant. While in the Service his duties took him into California's three National Parks, Yosemite, Sequoia, and General Grant. Upon his discharge in 1899 he was guide and packer in Yosemite for a year. Seven years later, after Yosemite Valley had been receded by the State of California to the Federal Government, he returned to Yosemite National Park under appointment by the Department of the Interior as Supervisor. From that year, 1906, until he reached the age of retirement in 1936, Gabriel Sovulewski devoted himself to the protection and development of Yosemite National Park.

During that period he was at times in charge of all field maintenance and construction and for a year or two before the National

Park Service was established he had full charge of the area. At the time of his retirement, Sovulewski was recognized throughout the Service as an authority on trail building, his official title being Supervisor in charge of maintenance and minor construction.

No man in the National Park Service had served so long, none more devotedly. None knew Yosemite National Park better or loved it more than he. It is therefore altogether fitting that permission has been given by the National Park Service to bury Gabriel Sovulewski in the Valley to which he gave the best years of his life.

Upon motion, the following resolution was unanimously adopted:

Resolved that the Sierra Club, in the death of Ynes Mexia, has sustained a great loss. Mrs. Mexia, who was the daughter of General Enrique A. Mexia, a noted representative of the Mexican government, was born in Georgetown, Washington, D. C., May 24, 1870. She spent a large part of her childhood in Texas and attended private schools in various parts of the United States. In later years she took many courses at the University of California, Berkeley. She became interested in botany and, from 1922 on, she spent most of her life on collecting expeditions to Mexico, Alaska, and South America. Her most famous trip was up the Amazon and across the Andes, where she spent nearly two years traveling alone, part of the time among the headwaters of the Amazon. (See *S. C. B.* 1933, "Three Thousand Miles Up the Amazon.") Because of her scientific knowledge and painstaking notes, the specimens collected by her have been recognized as of exceptional value.

Mrs. Mexia became a member of the Sierra Club in 1917 and went on many of its outings and, because of her cheerful disposition and extensive botanical knowledge, added materially to these expeditions. Her devotion to the objects of the Sierra Club, and of the Save-the-Redwoods League and the Califor-

nia Academy liberal bequeath will.

It is further expression for Mrs. M. immediate

The following Nominations to be placed on the list of disqualifications of Mrs. M. Avery, H.

Southern (chairman) Elsie A. Porter (treasurer) Fair, Wil Lloyd W. *San Francisco* (chairman) John P. S. hour, Day

The following Clubs, of which held its annual zama Lodge 3, 4 and days the and the planned curtailed This, however these irregular a number several g Hood, in Timberland fantastic

nia Academy of Sciences, is evidenced by the liberal bequests to these institutions in her will.

It is further resolved that a copy of this expression of the Sierra Club's deep regard for Mrs. Mexia be sent to members of her immediate family.

The following were appointed to act as the Nominating Committee to select names to be placed on the ballot at the coming election of directors of the Sierra Club: A. E. Mayers (chairman), Maren Aune, Kasson Avery, Herbert Breed, Dorothy H. Hug-

gins; Alternates: Suzanne Allen, William T. Goldsborough.

The following were appointed judges of election to act in the counting of the ballots at the next regular election of directors: Helene Morgan (chairman), Ada S. Chaplin, Ida E. Logan, Ella McElligott, Alice L. Meussdorffer, James A. Morgan, Andrew E. Neuenburg, Charles Spenner, Catherine S. Tubby.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

LEWIS F. CLARK, *Secretary pro tem.*

Newly Elected Chapter Executive Committees

Southern California: E. Stanley Jones (chairman), Dean S. Curtis (vice-chairman), Elsie A. Strand (secretary), Andrew O. Porter (treasurer), Robert K. Brinton, Agnes Fair, William J. Murray, Luella Todd, Lloyd W. Warner.

San Francisco Bay: Richard G. Johnson (chairman), Carolyn Nelson (vice-chairman), Laurance E. Haseltine (secretary), John P. Schagen (treasurer), James H. Barbour, David R. Brower, Doris F. Leonard,

Thelma Mazza, Robert R. Schallenberger.

Riverside: Richard M. Esgate (chairman), Eunice Reaper (vice-chairman), Frieda Marti (secretary), John E. Dole (treasurer), Delphin Difani, Forrest Keck, Harold Schmidt.

Loma Prieta: Charles A. Stone (chairman), Melvin H. Johnson (vice-chairman), Dorothy Markwad (secretary), Russell H. Varian (treasurer), Frank B. Duveneck, Albert F. Poulter, Helen W. Wunderlich.

Federation Convention

The Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, of which the Sierra Club is a member, held its seventh annual convention at Mazama Lodge on Mount Hood last September 3, 4 and 5. After a long spell of dry, clear days the Labor Day week-end turned wet, and the outside activities which had been planned for the delegates were necessarily curtailed by the almost continuous drizzle. This, however, did not dampen the spirits of these irrepressible mountaineers nor prevent a number of interesting trips being taken by several groups to various places on Mount Hood, including an inspection of the famous Timberline Lodge, and an exploration of the fantastic icefall of the Eliot Glacier, where

the party penetrated the maze of crevasses and towering skyscrapers of ice.

The Federation, through the media of its annual convention, the yearly bulletin, and other publication, aims to function in a three-fold manner: acting as a clearing house for exchange of views and experiences on common problems of the member clubs; promoting development of a friendly, co-operative spirit; exerting a solidifying force for conservation through voice representing over nine thousand individual members of affiliated clubs.

As the years go by the Federation grows stronger and the third phase of its aims bulks larger in the deliberations of the annual con-

vention. This was especially noticeable this year.

Responsive interest was drawn by the talks of Dr. Edwin Hodge, prominent geologist, on the history and geology of Mount Hood; F. H. Brundage, Regional Forester, on selective logging, and approval of the Federation objectives; Jack Horton, Assistant Regional Forester, on sustained yield of timber on private land, and Indian customs of conservation; Frank A. Kittredge, Regional Director of the National Park Service, on new areas, and on factors affecting development of road and trail systems; C. F. Brockman, Mount Rainier Park Naturalist, on boundaries of the Olympic National Park; Jack Hanna, western representative of the Youth Hostels, on the development of that movement on the Pacific Coast.

The by-laws of the Federation were amended regarding application of clubs seeking membership. Among other changes, an applicant must henceforth have had at least three years of continuous operation prior to the date of application. A proposal for vice-presidents for both northern and southern California was dropped.

The following resolutions were passed unanimously by the convention:

I and II.—Concerning preservation of the Olympic National Park as a wilderness, opposing extension of roads and granting of further commercial concessions.

III and IV.—Urging that additions to the Olympic National Park be made by presidential proclamation (under authority granted in the congressional bill) to preserve typical forest species located in the areas in

question, to provide more adequate fire protection, and more economical administration of certain contiguous forest service lands.

V, VI and VII.—Recommending studies regarding changes that seem to be needed in mining laws applicable to forest recreation lands in Washington, Oregon, and California.

VIII.—Establishing a new Conservation Committee for the Federation.

IX.—Recommending the passage of a bill to preserve timber stands along highways.

X.—Recommending more adequate Forest Service budgets in maintaining camp sanitation and fire protection.

XI.—Requesting Mr. Clinton C. Clarke to remove the name of the Federation from stationery of the Pacific Crest Trail System Conference since the Federation's name has been used without authority in this connection.

XII and XIII.—Expressing sincere thanks to the officers of the Federation and to the Mazamas for use of their lodge and their splendid hospitality.

Plans for the 1939 convention vitally concern the Sierra Club. Arthur Blake of the Sierra Club was elected President of the Federation for the ensuing year. The invitation of the Sierra Club to hold the eighth annual convention of the Federation at the Clair Tappaan Lodge next Labor Day was unanimously accepted. As host club, we want all our visitors to remember their visit with pleasure from the standpoint of new friends, new ideas, new experiences. Let us be prepared.

LEWIS F. CLARK, *Sierra Club Delegate*

Ski Tests and Judges

It has been found unnecessary to make any changes in the tests this year. A few copies of the tests will be available at the Clair Tappaan Lodge for candidates who want to make themselves familiar with the requirements.

A form covering names of judges on duty, places and times of tests, will be found on the bulletin board in the lodge. On this form both judges and candidates will be expected to enter their names. The prompt use of this

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form will be appreciated, as it will help both the person in charge at the lodge and the people concerned with the tests.

The judges appointed for the season are:

Fourth Class Test: Max Babin, Torcom Bedayan, Edgar M. Cerf, Roy W. Cohn, Caroline W. Coleman, Lloyd S. Davis, A. C. Gerould, George Gibbs, Jr., Louise Hewlett, Otto Hoefler, Oliver Kehrlein, Doris F. Leonard, Richard M. Leonard, Margery McCormick, George A. Rudolf, Charles W. Shepherd, Glenn L. Weber, Edward C. Yeazell.

Third and Fourth Class Tests: Bruce B. Grant, William R. Hewlett, Alexander

Hildebrand, Louise Hildebrand, Roger Hildebrand, Arthur F. McGarr, Harold L. Paige, Rolf D. Pundt, Walter A. Radius, Bestor Robinson, Elliot Sawyer, P. H. von Lubken, Adrian A. Wahlander, John U. White.

Second Class Test: F. E. Baldauf, Franklin J. Banker, Lewis F. Clark, Joel H. Hildebrand, Milton Hildebrand, Einar Nilsson.

Judges will be expected to be fully acquainted with the test requirements. This will be the only notification of appointments.

EINAR NILSSON, *Chairman of the Committee on Tests and Standards*

Recent Improvements at Norden

There has been a great deal of fine work done at Norden this past summer and fall. The following list of accomplishments will give members of the Sierra Club an idea of the recent improvements in and about Clair Tappaan Lodge.

The Peter Grubb Memorial Ski Hut is now completed with stone walls, copper roof, spring beds, good cook-stove, sink, table, stock of firewood, and a flagpole high enough to appear above 25 feet of snow.

The extension on Clair Tappaan Lodge is

almost finished. The kitchen has twice its former space; there is a pantry, and quarters for custodian and cook. New sinks are being designed and are to be installed in a few weeks.

The men's annex dormitory has a new roof, shaked walls, and new oil burner. New ski racks are in process of being assembled. One hundred and one new mattresses equip nearly all the bunks. The ski tow is practically complete.

Plans for the 1939 Burro Trips

The two 1938 burro trips were experiments designed to broaden Sierra Club activities, to give more members an opportunity to enjoy the mountains in the summer, and to teach these people to become competent campers who could "do it right." The experiments proved to be so successful that more burro trips will be conducted in 1939. The trips will probably radiate from base camp in Tuolumne Meadows in Yosemite National Park. Final itineraries will be planned only at the last minute when snow and trail conditions, and the wishes of the party are

known. The country from the Merced range to the Minarets, north to the Sawtooth range and back to the Cathedral group will be there waiting for us. Eighteen to twenty persons and twelve burros will make up a party. The first group will pack in the first two weeks of July before the snow has left the peaks. A second trip will be conducted the last two weeks of July and possibly another during the first two weeks of August. All will depend upon the participation of members. We will hike about eighty miles, many of them off of trails without the animals. We will

climb lofty peaks, eat each other's cooking and like it, sing songs on the trail, take pictures, fish, cook Canadian bacon over a dying

campfire, learn to pack a burro, and master many tricks of mountaineering.

MILTON HILDEBRAND

What's Needed at Norden?

As you have heard, the Sierra Club has invited the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs to the Clair Tappaan Lodge for its convention on Labor Day weekend of next year. But do you realize just what that means? Representatives from 24 outdoor clubs, from the entire Pacific Coast, will be relaxing by our fire, enjoying our food, sleeping on our mattresses, and comparing our lodge favorably or unfavorably with their own and other lodges. It is up to us to be sure that they really *can* relax by the fire, and that they *will* be able to enjoy the food, and that they *may* find it possible to sleep when they go to bed. We may not have as luxurious a place as the beautiful Mazama Lodge, where the Federation met this year, but ours can and should be as clean, comfortable, and convenient as we can possibly make it. Yes, we know it is practically perfect now, after all the work

that has been put on it during the open season. But there is a strenuous conscious-only-of-skis winter ahead, and an elusive far-away-from-Norden summer after that, neither of which make it easy to concentrate on an even more distant Labor Day convention.

However, this is an early reminder of that important event, so that when you are up at Norden this winter, and run across some small (or large) inconvenience which a little ingenuity could render convenient, or a slight discomfort which might be changed to comfort, will you please send in your suggestions to the Lodge committee? They will be most grateful for any mental assistance of that sort, and you will be reminded again of any physical assistance that may be needed later. Help Clair Tappaan Lodge shine for '39!

H. T. P.

American Ski Annual

Now in its third consecutive year, the *American Ski Annual* has indisputably become the voice of American skiing. Whether one is a *kanonen*, or merely skis for pleasure, there is an abundance of fascinating material to be found between its broad-spread covers. The annual of 1938-39 season should prove of special interest to Sierra Club skiers if only because of two articles—"California Pioneers on Skis," by David C. Mills, in which the competitive aspects of skiing by Snowshoe Thompson and his contemporaries are disclosed; and Bestor Robinson's "Camping on the Sierra Crest."

It is perhaps better not to direct too much attention to local interests in the Annual.

Anyone who peruses it from cover to cover cannot fail to realize the need for coordination of the widespread front of American skiing, and will at the same time realize that the National Ski Association, through the Annual, is doing a splendid job. Skiing has progressed so rapidly that it is beyond the scope of our own *Sierra Club Bulletin* to keep pace with it. Ski-enthusiasts can do no better than turn to the *American Ski Annual* in their effort to keep up with the times.

D. R. B.

American Ski Annual, organ of the National Ski Assn. Published by the Stephen Daye Press, Brattleboro, Vt., 1938. 230 pp. + (56), many photographs. Price \$1.00.

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